

Letters from Craig DiCiancia, Janet Ainsworth, and the Marinellis addressed to The Environment Committee Regarding Support for S.B. 831

I am writing to express my support for S.B. 831. I firmly believe that the MDC and similar organizations need greater protection from frivolous lawsuits. This bill would give them the reassurance that they need in order to continue to keep their properties open to public use.

Connecticut has too few open spaces that are large enough to permit the enjoyment of adventure sports such as hiking and mountain biking. Those that do remain need to be protected from the tiny minority of careless and greedy opportunists for the healthful enjoyment of the majority. Our society is headed in so many wrong directions. Over litigation coupled with lack of personal responsibility is one of those dead end trails. Passage of this bill is one small step towards protecting the human spirit for thousands of Connecticut residents.

Craig DiCiancia, owner
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I lead hikes for several organized outdoor recreation groups, youth organizations, my church and my office. The trails we hike often are on property owned by municipalities or municipal corporations like the MDC. I think it would be a terrible thing if some of the most scenic areas of our state were no longer available to the public because of liability concerns on the part of the property owners.

Janet Ainsworth
Guilford, CT

I am writing in support of Bill 831 that would limit liabilities for municipalities. My wife and I work stressful jobs with long commutes. We (and many others) really look forward to our time getting much needed exercise on the beautiful West Hartford MDC property. We drive there from Torrington twice/week and also support West Hartford's local businesses like Puppy Center Pet shop, Central Wheel, Jerry Artarama's and several restaurants. If we didn't use the MDC property we'd also not visit those establishments, as we wouldn't be in the area as much as we are now. Losing access to the MDC property would be a terrible blow to us. Passing of this bill would also start opening/protecting other water company land that could be used for the citizens of Connecticut to exercise and enjoy the outdoors. Please consider passing this bill when the time comes! It's good for everyone who lives in Connecticut!

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